

# **ENERGY CONNECTION**

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Core Values: Leadership, Professionalism & Technical Knowledge through Dedication to Duty, Integrity, Ethics, Honor, Courage & Loyalty Volume 3, Issue 16

October 15, 2023



A MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY COMMANDER Mr. Dave Kless

### Energy Team,

Thank you to the nearly 350 employees who joined CAPT Anderson and I in person – and the 450+ who joined online – for the All Hands last week. If you weren't able to watch live, here is the link to watch online (CAC-required).

We understand DLA's changes to telework and remote work is a very emotional topic and cultural shift. We thank you for sharing you questions and concerns. We're working to address several issues about parking, desk space, cafeteria hours and so much more. We want to continue to hear from you. Not just the problems, but your ideas for solutions. If you are interested in joining a cross-sectional implementation team led by Patricial Wilkins, please email the CAG.

To better understand the reasons for the change, please <u>read the news story</u> <u>with Mr. Bunn's thoughts</u> and the <u>J1 FAQs</u> (CAC-required), which answer many of the overarching questions. The intent is a hybrid workplace that blends physical and virtual presence and sets the conditions to help meet future challenges.

So, why wasn't the pilot program extended? Are there metrics to support its termination? The honest answer is the pilot no longer fully supports DLA's future mission goals. The White House has asked federal agencies to aggressively execute more in-person work to better deliver results. The purpose of the pilot wasn't to collect metrics but assess the best way to support our customers and execute our mission. What the pilot did show from an Agency perspective was that coming together provides a more effective solution. As a combat support agency, much like the warfighters on the ground, it is time to come together, be present, and actively engaged with our customers.

CAPT Anderson and I ask for your patience as we navigate the new norm.

# **Telework FAQs**

Here are some telework questions summarized. For the complete list of FAQs, visit <u>J1's telework intranet site</u> (CAC-required).

Why is DLA changing its approach to telework now? DLA is bringing the functional and technical communities back together to solve complex problems—this is accomplished most efficiently in a face-to-face, collaborative environment. Telework is a voluntary program, not an employee entitlement, and management has the discretion to determine the number of days and specific days an employee must report to the office. The latest shift in our telework posture is intended to adjust our physical and virtual presence to support mission execution, teamwork and collaboration, and professional development while continuing to provide workplace flexibilities.

Why are employees authorized to have regular, recurring telework days only on Monday and Friday? Research shows Monday and Friday are the most sought after teleworking days, and DLA leadership recognizes that having employees come back together during the middle of the week will establish consistent opportunities for collaboration.

Who can approve requests for situational and unscheduled telework? Your supervisor approves requests for situational and unscheduled telework. Employees who are designated as a team lead or have assumed other leadership duties, but do not have supervisory authority are not eligible to approve another employee's telework request or telework agreement. All employees must accurately record/code their telework time in EAGLE when they are approved for telework.

**Is remote work an option?** Yes, but only on a limited, case-by-case basis. Remote work remains a discretionary management tool utilized when proven to be in the best interest of DLA's mission requirements, for example, to address hard-to-fill positions and/or critically needed skills. Positions approved as meeting such criteria are advertised accordingly.

I was authorized Local Area Remote Work (LARW) under the pilot. Does this change apply to me? LARW arrangements under the pilot expire on January 1, 2024. Local area remote workers must return to the official worksite.

**Are there exceptions to the onsite reporting requirement?** Reasonable Accommodation is the only exception. For questions, please refer to the FAQs on the Reasonable Accommodation webpage (CAC-required).

**Does this affect Fitness Time?** There is no impact to the DLA Civilian Fitness and Wellness Program.

I already submitted responses to the Denison Culture/Climate Survey. Can I go back and change my survey? Once responses to the survey have been submitted to Denison, they cannot be altered, changed, or recalled. While we can't change completed surveys, we encourage you to share your thoughts or ideas with your Chain of Command and with AskHR@dla.mil.

### **JOB WELL DONE!**

DLA Energy Europe & Africa "Energizer of the Month"

#### **LTJG Rafael Medina**

In Sept., LTJG Medina planned and executed a 14-day European tour for the DLA Energy Commander including employee townhalls, site surveys, and meetings with partners in England, Scotland, Denmark, Norway, and Germany. His efforts helped



continue international partner building and multilateral agreements. In addition, his role as the lead desk officer for AFRICOM is a critical bridge between the Services, Contracting Officers, CASs, and other equities.

# NEWS

### European leaders discuss reciprocal fuel support

Over 80 leaders from 14 countries met during the DLA Energy Europe &



Africa Fuels Exchange Agreements Forum in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, Sept. 19-21.

#### DLA, European partners reconcile \$81.2M fuel accounts

A DLA Energy Finance team worked with European partners to collect payment of reciprocal fuel sales that is expected to reimburse more than \$81 million to the Defense Department's Working Capital Fund.

#### DLA Energy supports space missions from coast to coast

DLA Energy Aerospace fueled two space missions in Sept: one from California and another from Florida.



# Fueling MacDill's future, one gallon at a time

DLA Energy Americas & MacDill AFB personnel fuel MacDill's aircraft and surrounding locations near Tampa.

# <u>DLA Energy helps Fort Carson soldiers save \$260,000 in</u> potential fuel losses

DLA Energy QARs worked alongside soldiers to recirculate over 60,000 gallons of off-specification fuel and save nearly \$260,000 in potential fuel losses.

# **Other Announcements**

<u>Pet photo contest</u> (CAC-required): Vote for your favorite pets for the 2024 DLA Energy Calendar! Vote by Oct. 20.



Learn more about your colleagues who celbrate their heritage this month: <u>Marcel Ocampo</u>, <u>COL Josielyn Carrasquillo</u> and <u>Daisy Williams</u>

<u>Read more about the DLA Energy DSO and Acquisition</u> Workforce Development Team fantastic celebration Oct. 4.

Congratulations to Dana Robertson who received the Meritorious Civilian Service Award at her going away luncheon Sept. 21. She was the Deputy Commander Executive Officer since December 2020 and is moving on to a position with the DLA Director's Strategic Initiatives Group.



Job well done to Cindy Ralph and Chris Sampson who received a command coin from Naval Facilities Engineering Systems

Command Southeast Commanding Officer CAPT Miguel Dieguez for overcoming multiple challenges on delivering LNG to NS Guantanamo Bay.

Bravo Zulu to Air Force Reservist
Maj Erin Reilly who was received the
Defense Meritorious Service Medal at
USTRANSCOM Headquarters Aug. 10.
She served as DLA Energy Americas West
Operations and Plans Officer for nearly
11 years from 2012 to 2023 overseeing



training exercises, interacting with state level emergency management entities, and supporting real-world events.



## Mark your calendars!



Oct 25: Advisory & Integration Council meeting\*, 1pm

Oct 26: Breakfast with the Deputy, 7:30am

**Nov 13:** DLA Energy Lunch & Learn, 11:30am on "Becoming a Successful Team Player"

Nov 14: Advisory & Integration council meeting\*, 9:30am

Nov 14: Culture Climate meeting\*, 10:30am and 7pm

Nov 28: DLA Energy Hall of Fame

\*The committee and council meetings are for current members only. If you are interested in getting involved, contact <u>DLAEnergyCAG@dla.mil</u>